GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2199
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2015
HIV Transmission
Munde Dr.Pritam Gopinath;Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of HIV transmission due to Drug abuse and addiction are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has taken note of risk of HIV infections due to blades, razors and needles being used on multiple clients without being sterilized in many saloons and tattoo centres across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures being taken by the Government to stop the practice and spread awareness in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)
(a): HIV transmission amongst the Injecting Drug User (IDU) is one of the highest amongst the high risk groups, which also include sex workers, men having sex with men and transgenders. As per the HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS), HIV prevalence among Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) in India was 7.23% in 2007, 9.19% in 2008-09 and 7.14 % in 2010-11 respectively. The results of the latest Survey are under finalisation.
(b): The State wise prevalence of HIV among IDUs is at Annexure.
For prevention of transmission of HIV amongst Injecting Drug Users (IDU), harm reduction is the strategy that has been adopted. The strategy includes reaching out to the IDUs through their peers and promoting counseling, providing clean needles and syringes, condom distribution, and treatment of abscess and Sexually Transmitted infections (STI). IDUs are also referred for testing, and if found positive are linked to Anti-retroviral Treatment Centres (ART) for further treatment. Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) is another component under the harm reduction strategy which includes medically administered service of Buprenorphine wherein the medicine is given sublingually to wean off the effect of drugs.

(c) & (d): Yes. Multimedia campaigns are planned and implemented for creating awareness on HIV transmission modes, including transmission through unsafe use of blades and razors, etc. The campaigns through mass media supported by interpersonal communications, outdoor, mid media, IEC Material and exhibition are implemented at national and state levels.

Annexure
State-wise HIV prevalence (%) among Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) in 2010-11
State HIV prevalence (%)
A & N Islands -
Andhra Pradesh 3.05
Arunachal Pradesh 0.24
Assam 1.46
Bihar 4.54
Chandigarh 7.2
Chhattisgarh 0.42
D & N Haveli -
Daman & Diu -
Delhi 18.27
Goa -
Gujarat 1.6
Haryana 0.8
Himachal Pradesh 4.89
Jammu & Kashmir 0
Jharkhand 2.02
Karnataka 0
Kerala 4.95
Madhya Pradesh 5.13
Maharastra 14.17

Manipur 12.89
Meghalaya 6.44
Mizoram 12.01
Nagaland 2.21
Odisha 7.16
Puducherry -
Punjab 21.1
Rajasthan -
Sikkim 0
Tamil Nadu -
Tripura 0.45
Uttar Pradesh 2.03
Uttarakhand 4.33
West Bengal 2.72
India 7.14
Note: Source: HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS) 2010-11; In the States which is blank including Lakshadweep has either no IDU sites or 75% of the valid sample were not received.